

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 141

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 0368

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG

SUBJECT: CSCE: INFORMATION-WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS

REF: GENEVA 7356

1. IN THE COURSE OF SMALL GROUP INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS ON WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS THE SOVIETS HAVE INTRODUCED AND STRONGLY PRESSED THE CONCEPT OF RECIPROCITY CONCERNING ISSUANCE OF VISAS, MULTIPLE ENTRY-VISAS, AND TRAVEL PERMITS. WORDS "ON RECIPROCAL BASIS" WOULD BE INSERTED IN FIRST AND THIRD OPERATIVE SUBPARAS OF TEXT SENT REFTEL. RECIPROCITY CONCEPT HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY NEUTRALS AND CAN BE ACCEPTED BY SOME NATO DELS.

2. NATO POSITION ON THIS CONCEPT OF RECIPROCITY WILL BE DECIDED AT EXPERTS CAUCUS ON WEDNESDAY MORNING JAN 29. WHILE WE WOULD PREFER TO ELIMINATE RECIPROCITY AS A GENERAL RULE, WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS NOT HARMFUL IN REGARD TO WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS. THEREFORE, IF OTHER NATO DELS FAVOR MEETING THE SOVIETS DESIRE IN THIS CASE, WE PLAN TO GO ALONG UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED BY JAN 29.
ABRAMS

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NNN

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